CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for admitting applicants into an academic institution comprising the steps of:

   compiling a list of standardized test takers who have applied for admission to at least one academic institution, but have not received an offer of admission to any one of said at least one academic institutions;

   conditionally admitting selected ones of said test takers to an abbreviated academic program;

   subjecting said conditionally admitted test takers to at least one examination during said abbreviated academic program, each conditionally admitted test taker achieving a score on said at least one examination; and,

   admitting into the academic institution those conditionally admitted test takers who achieve a score on said at least one examination which satisfies an admissions criteria.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of conditionally admitting selected ones of said test takers to an abbreviated academic program comprises the steps of:

   computing a shifting range of standardized test scores and grade point averages (GPAs) for said test takers;

   identifying those test takers having a standardized test score and GPA falling within said shifting range; and,

   conditionally admitting said identified test takers.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said subjecting step comprises:

   administering at least one examination to said conditionally admitted test takers during said abbreviated academic program;

4   scoring said at least one examination based on a calibrated grading process;

5   and,

6   for each conditionally admitted test taker, combining scores for said at least one

7   examination, said combined scores forming a composite score.

1   4.   The method of claim 3, wherein said step of admitting into the academic

2   institution those conditionally admitted test takers who achieve a score on said at least

3   one examination which satisfies an admissions criteria comprises the step of admitting

4   into the academic institution those conditionally admitted test takers whose composite

5   score exceeds a pre-determined composite score.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing asynchronous

2   instruction in at least one academic discipline to said conditionally admitted test takers.

1   6.   The method of claim 5, wherein said step of providing asynchronous instruction

2   comprises the steps of:

3   delivering electronic instructional content to remotely situated conditionally

4   admitted test takers;

5   receiving classroom work-product from said remotely situated conditionally

6   admitted test takers; and,

7   forwarding said received classroom work-product to at least one instructor.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing synchronous

2   instruction in at least one academic discipline to said conditionally admitted test takers.

1   8.   The method of claim 7, wherein said step of providing synchronous instruction

2   comprises the steps of:

3   delivering on-line instructional content to remotely situated conditionally admitted

4   test takers; and,

5   moderating on-line participation between said remotely situated conditionally

6   admitted test takers and at least one instructor.

1   9.   The method of claim 3, wherein said subjecting step further comprises the steps

2   of:

3   delivering a final examination on-line to conditionally admitted test takers situated

4   in a remote testing facility;

5   proctoring said examination at said remote testing facility; and,

6   factoring resulting scores for said final examination into said composite score.

1   10.   The method of claim 1, wherein said compiling step comprises the step of

2   compiling a list of Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) test takers who have applied for

3   admission to at least one law school, but have not received an offer of admission to any

4   one of said at least one law schools.

1   11.   The method of claim 10, wherein said step of conditionally admitting selected

2   ones of said test takers to an abbreviated academic program comprises the steps of:

3   computing a shifting range of LSAT scores and undergraduate grade point

4   averages (UGPAs) for said test takers;

5   identifying those LSAT test takers having an LSAT score and UGPA falling within

6   said shifting range; and,

7   conditionally admitting said identified test takers to an abbreviated law school

8   program.

1   12.   The method of claim 10, wherein said subjecting step comprises:

2   administering at least one law school examination to said conditionally admitted

3   LSAT test takers during said abbreviated academic program;

4   scoring said at least one law school examination based on a calibrated grading

5   process; and,

6   for each conditionally admitted LSAT test taker, combining scores for said at

7   least one law school examination, said combined scores forming a composite score.

1   13.   A method for admitting applicants into an academic institution comprising the

2   steps of:

3   identifying among a selection of standardized test takers, those test takers who

4   have applied for admission to at least one academic institution and have received more

5   rejections than offers of admission from said at least one academic institutions;

6   extending to said identified test takers an offer of conditional admittance to the

7   academic institution;

8   enrolling in the academic institution at least one of said identified test takers who

9   have accepted said extended offer;

10   subjecting said at least one enrolled test taker to at least one examination; and,

11   grading said at least one examination, said grading producing an examination

12   score for said at least one enrolled test taker,

13   whereby enrolled test takers achieving an examination score which exceeds a

14   pre-defined level are permitted to remain enrolled in the academic institution.

1   14.   The method of claim 13, wherein said extending step comprises the steps of:

2   computing a shifting range of standardized test scores and grade point averages

3   (GPAs) for said test takers;

4   selecting particular test takers having a standardized test score and GPA falling

5   within said shifting range; and,

6   extending to said selected particular test takers an offer of conditional

7   admittance to the academic institution.

1 15. The method of claim 13, wherein said grading step comprises the steps of:

2 calibrating graders in a grading process; and,

3 subjecting said at least one examination to said grading process, said grading

4 process producing an examination score for said at least one enrolled test taker,

1 16. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of providing asynchronous

2 instruction in at least one academic discipline to said enrolled test takers.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein said step of providing asynchronous instruction

2 comprises the steps of:

3 delivering electronic instructional content to remotely situated conditionally

4 enrolled test takers;

5 receiving classroom work-product from said remotely situated enrolled test

6 takers; and,

7 forwarding said received classroom work-product to at least one instructor.

1 18. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of providing synchronous

2 instruction in at least one academic discipline to said enrolled test takers.

1 19. The method of claim 13, wherein said step of providing synchronous instruction

2 comprises the steps of:

3 delivering on-line instructional content to remotely situated enrolled test takers;

4 and,

5 moderating on-line participation between said remotely situated enrolled test

6 takers and at least one instructor.

1   20.   The method of claim 13, wherein said identifying step comprises the steps of:

2   reviewing a selection of test takers who have taken one of the law school

3   admissions test (LSAT), medical college admissions test (MCAT), dental admissions

4   test (DAT), veterinary college admissions test (VCAT), pharmacy college admissions

5   test (PCAT), allied health programs admissions test (AHPAT), graduate record

6   examination (GRE), and the graduate management admission test (GMAT); and,

7   identifying among said selection, those test takers who have applied for

8   admission to at least one graduate school and have received more rejections than

9   offers of admission from said at least one graduate schools.

1   21.   A method for admitting applicants into an academic institution comprising the

2   steps of:

3   compiling a list of standardized test takers who have applied for admission to at

4   least one academic institution, but have not received an offer of admission to any one

5   of said at least one academic institutions;

6   electronically registering selected ones of said test takers in an abbreviated

7   academic program;

8   administering at least one examination over a computer communications network

9   to said registered test takers during said abbreviated academic program, each

10   registered test taker achieving a score on said at least one examination; and,

11   electronically enrolling in the academic institution those registered test takers

12   who achieve a score on said at least one examination which satisfies an admissions

13   criteria.

1   22.   A machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for

2   admitting applicants into an academic institution, said computer program having a

3   plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform

4   the steps of:

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5   compiling a list of standardized test takers who have applied for admission to at

6   least one academic institution, but have not received an offer of admission to any one

7   of said at least one academic institutions;

8   electronically registering selected ones of said test takers in an abbreviated

9   academic program;

10   administering at least one examination over a computer communications network

11   to said registered test takers during said abbreviated academic program, each

12   registered test taker achieving a score on said at least one examination; and,

13   electronically enrolling in the academic institution those registered test takers

14   who achieve a score on said at least one examination which satisfies an admissions

15   criteria.